

From: Marc Rassbach
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I do not see how the proposed settlement goes ANY way to redress the past monopolistic actions of Microsoft.

Nor does it stop them in the future.

Late 1980's. I could not buy a machine w/o MS-DOS (and later windows) I ran Xenix 286 and Xenix 386, and did not need thier product, yet was forced to buy it.

Last year I needed a laptop. I could not buy a new laptop unless I *ALSO* paid for some form of windows. That laptop boots FreeBSD, and *I* have never booted Windows on it.

As a consultant, I do not need, nor want to be forced to buy their products just so I can have hardware to run FreeBSD. Yet, that is exactly what is happening. And has been happening for years. Microsoft has used the dominance of DOS/Windows to now levelrage the browser market. Next up is they will use this dominance to leverage payments out of consumers to view content. The windows media player being built into DVD drives is an example. The use of the DMCA to prevent decryption of the specs to thier re-implementation of kerberos (causing breakage with the standard) is another example of 'business as usual' for Microsoft.

I know that if *I* created false evidence in court, I would have be behind bars right now. Judges do not like people lying under oath. Yet, the end result for Microsoft is remains another day in monopoly paradise for Microsoft, with the governments help.

Part of the rhetoric of 0 /bin/ladin is that the US government backs its corporations. The proposed settlement is more business as usual where the US government helps to back corporations. Show some backbone. Do your job. Work to stop the illegal microsoft monopoly.

Linux is for people who hate Microsoft.
FreeBSD is for people who love UNIX.

Windows: "Where do want to go today?"
Linux: "Where do you want to go tomorrow?"

BSD: "Hey, are you guys coming or what?!?"